

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claims 87-101 are now pending in this application, with Claims 87, 92 and 97 being independent. Claims 102-110 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Initially, Applicants request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statements filed November 13, 2007, and March 24, 2008, and indicate such consideration by initialing and returning the Forms PTO-1449 provided therewith.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 87-101 are allowed. Claims 87-101 have not been amended herein, thus remaining in condition for allowance.

Claims 102-110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 102-110 have been cancelled herein, thus rendering this rejection moot. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejection, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance and to expedite issuance.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-noted Office

Action, and an early Notice of Allowability are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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